

Library Database/Spreadsheet

Melvil Dewey created a system in 1876 to group books on shelves of a library. This is now called the Dewey Decimal System. There are 10 broad areas, which are broken down into sub-topics and all of these are given numbers.

000 General Knowledge	400 Languages, Grammar	700 Arts, Recreation
100 Psychology, Philosophy	500 Math, Science	800 Literature
200 Religions, Mythology	600 Medicine, Technology	900 Geography, History
300 Social Sciences, Folklore		

So a book called "Learn French" would be given the number 448.3 as it is classified in the Languages section.

Melvil Dewey devised this system a long time before computers were invented yet it is perfect for building Spreadsheet and Database Models.

Your Task

Find the Dewey Decimal numbers for a sample of books, (20 would be a basic sample). Make sure you have a good spread of values, (1, 2 or 3 from each group). This can be done either by going to your library or using the internet (http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/culturetourism/libraries/library_catalogue.htm) Search by Title and Look for the Class Number.

From Devon County Exeter Library

Title: Dogs	Reservations: 0	Reserve Title
Author: Alderton, David	Copies: 2	
Class: J636.7	On Order: 0	More Details
Format: Paperback	Year: 1993	

You can see from the result of my search 'Dogs' I have the above information. The Class (dewey) is J636.7 ~ J stands for Junior, so it is found in the Junior section of the Library, (I discovered this by following the [More Details](#) link.

- ✓ Using such information you should be able to build a Spreadsheet or Database that could search your Sample on given Criteria ~ Title, Author, Dewey Class ...
- ✓ You can see Field Titles that could be used, in the table above
- ✓ The Sample could then be expanded once you have a prototype model

Further Ideas at Springers GCSE Applied ICT site <http://www.bratton.plus.com/Springers/>